

Dodge County Land & Water Conservation
Committee Meeting Minutes
127 East Oak Street
Juneau, WI 53039
December 18, 2017

The Dodge County Land & Water Conservation Committee (LWCC), Planning, Development & Parks Committee and the UW-Extension Education Committee of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors met on Monday, December 18, 2017 at 8:00 o'clock A.M., on the Third Floor Conference Room, **Room 3A** (302), Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, Wisconsin.

Note: All Action Items related only to the Land & Water Conservation Committee. The Planning, Development & Parks Committee and the UW-Extension Education Committee listened, gathered information within the body's realm of authority, but did not take any formal action.

1. Call to Order: This meeting was called to order by Chair Larry Bischoff at 8:00 AM with the following members present: Larry Bischoff, Richard Fink, Allen Behl, Dale Macheel, William Foley, William Muche and Lisa Derr.

Other Dodge County Board Members and Dodge County Staff, Agency Advisors and Citizens Present: John Bohonek-County Conservationist, Robert Bird – Conservation Agronomist, Mike Burg – USDA-APHIS, Matt Peplinski – FSA, Ruth Johnson.

2. Approval of Agenda and Permit Chair to Deviate from Agenda to Efficiently Conduct Meeting. Bill Muche moved first and Bill Foley second to approve.
3. Approval of Minutes of the November 27, 2017 Meeting. Derr moved and Dick Fink seconded to approve.
4. Public Appearances/Comments – (Limit 5 Minutes Per Speaker) Ruth attended the farmers alliance meeting and said that this group is seen as a model for other counties. At the meeting, the topic of buffers came up. Ruth is concerned about the possible need for a buffer ordinance in the future. The Lake Sinnissippi District will be providing \$5,000.00 to help offset the cost of planting cover crops in the Lake Sinnissippi drainage area. She discussed the best way to structure this and asked if John Bohonek could possibly come to that next meeting. She asked if county would also offer funding for the Healthy Soils and Healthy Water seminar and additionally provide cost sharing for cover crops.
5. Agency Advisor Monthly Reports: Significant Work Activities & Issues – FSA next meeting is January 11. No news on new CRP signups, 50 contracts expiring this year. FSA new state director is Sandy Chalmers.
6. Review Bills and Revenue – Truck repairs, manure storage closure, etc.
7. Consideration of 2017 Wildlife Crop Damage Claims (Mike Burg, USDA-APHIS). There were only 2 goose damage claims to soy beans and alfalfa. Bill Muche moved and Dick Fink seconded to approve expenses.

8. Report on Nonpoint Runoff Work Group progress. John Bohonek reported that several different meetings for planning the February Healthy Soils/Healthy Waters workshop. Wednesday morning is the next meeting.
9. Consider Donating \$1500.00 to Nonpoint Runoff Work Group. John noted that we gave them \$1,500 last year. They have an individual now to search for donations and grants. Dale noted that not all farmers realize why cover crops are so beneficial for soil health. Feb 7 & 8 Healthy soils conference will hopefully encourage farmers to sign up for cover crops. Derr moved & Bill Foley seconded to approve \$1,500 and let them determine how they want to spend it.
10. Robert Bird discussed Top 5 Things Learned at a tillage conference he attended: **1)** We are not too far north for cover crops. **2)** Jerry Hatfield was keynote and noted that wetter springs with drier and warmer summers produce a yield gap of 20% yield loss 80% of the time. Fields need to be able to infiltrate 2" rains without runoff. **3)** 80% of compaction happens in the first pass which affects how to size ag. equipment. **4)** What makes for a healthy soil? **5)** Fine tuning soil fertility.

Action Items include promoting the Dodge County Farmers for Healthy Soil & Healthy Water with Feb 7 & 8 workshops, cost sharing for more cover crops & promoting SNAP nutrient plans, less tillage and manure management. Wildcat Creek HUC 12 sized watershed project focusing on each farm. Farmland preservation in new townships including more SNAP nutrient plans, gulley erosion repair and staff working with landowners and farmers on runoff control. They also discussed water infiltration tests, soil penetrometer and rainfall simulator.

11. Land & Water Resource Management Program: Monthly Report & Consider 2017 Cost Share Agreement Extension Request. 4 contracts carried over from last year. 3 of them are completed. Two projects will have to be carried over from this year including manure storage abandonment, diversion and rock line waterway.
12. Consideration of Manure Storage Ordinance Permit Fees for 2018. Earnest money fee \$1,250, Building manure storage \$1,000, but manure transfer is \$500. All were increased last year. Derr moved and Allen seconded to keep the fees the same as they were increased.
13. Farmland Preservation Program, software tracking update, Notices of Noncompliance – Tom Becker is a private consultant working on software program. Next step is to sign a "Statement of Work" for \$5,700 to make the program in ACCESS, should take a couple months. Issued 3 notices of Noncompliance. One was requested and 2 that said they would implement practices but never did. Dick Fink moved and Allen seconded to remove 3 landowners from the FPP.
14. Consideration of Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Annual Conference – March 14-16, 2017 and agendas were handed out.
15. Consideration of 2018 Membership dues for WI. Land and Water Conservation Association of \$1,637. There are 3 other voluntary dues available: "envirothon" education for high schoolers. Standards and oversight committee that handles revising NCRS standards and the third is GLC "Great Lakes Committee" Discussed putting in \$55 for the educational fund in addition to the association fees. Derr moved to pay the WLWCA dues and to add \$55 for Envirothon and Dale seconded. Motion passed.
16. County Conservationist Monthly Report: Significant Work Activities and Issues
Land Conservationist Leave Update – Report by John on meetings with the DNR on Wildcat creek. We have been awarded \$18,000 to help cover salary costs to write the 9-key element watershed plan.

Worked on tree orders, Fox Lake inland lake meeting and checking barnyards for compliance with FPP in towns of Chester and Hustisford.

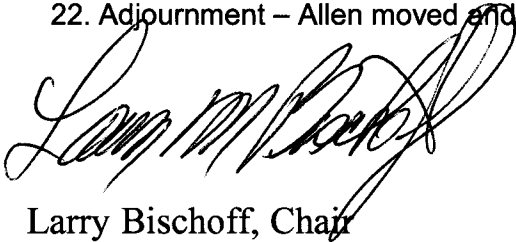
17. Discuss committee goals for the department – tabled for the next meeting
18. Committee Member Reports – Bill Muche reported on Lake Sinnissippi about donating \$5,000 for cover crops. Discussed how to pay (per acre, etc.) Anthony Island riprap is in engineering stage. The geotube was never completed and he wanted some money up front so they gave him \$10,000 to get it finished. Boat landing project will seek funding from village of Hustisford.

Dale Macheel reported on Fox lake district meeting at Dec 14, 2017. Hired a new clerk to start in January. They approved spending \$6,000 for septic system to impact water quality. Lake biologist suggested lake district acquire an easement on the prison farm to put in needed filtration system. Dale said this is his last meeting to be on that committee.

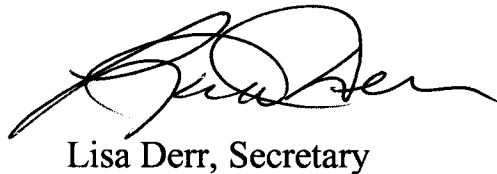
WRM students gave a report to the UW on the Beaver Creek project. This will be ready for publication at the end of January. BDLI would like to change the water levels of Beaver Dam Lake, you must petition state to change the order.

DNR does not have funding for maintenance and repair of lake shores. BDLI will request grant for carp barriers, etc. This is 50 acres wetland near Puckagee Spring being eaten up by wave action and ice. Can try to install Jersey barriers (immersed) and timbers to float and slow down wave action.

19. Correspondence – None
20. Per Diem – Derr moved and Bill Muche seconded. Motion passed.
21. Next Meeting Date January 22, 2018.
22. Adjournment – Allen moved and Derr seconded. Motion carried.



Larry Bischoff, Chair



Lisa Derr, Secretary